

H. B. No. 20
As Introduced

_____ moved to amend as follows:

In line 1 of the title, delete the first "section" and insert "sections"; delete "to enact section" 1
2
In line 2 of the title, delete "2927.31" and insert "2921.31"; 3
delete "prohibit a person" 4
Delete line 3 of the title and insert "increase the penalty for 5
obstructing official business when the victim is an" 6
In line 8, delete the first "section" and insert "sections"; delete 7
"be amended"; delete the second "section" 8
In line 9, delete "2927.31" and insert "2921.31"; delete "enacted" 9
and insert "amended" 10
After line 86, insert: 11
"Sec. 2921.31. (A) As used in this section: 12
(1) "Emergency service responder" has the same meaning as 13
in section 2903.22 of the Revised Code. 14
(2) "Warning" means a verbal command made by an emergency 15



service responder through which the emergency service responder 16
does both of the following: 17

(a) Commands a person to maintain the person's distance, 18
to stay away, to back away, to not interfere, or another similar 19
instruction; 20

(b) Communicates the verbal command in a manner such that 21
a reasonable person would believe that the person must comply 22
with the verbal command under the circumstances. 23

(B) No person, without privilege to do so and with purpose 24
to prevent, obstruct, or delay the performance by a public 25
official of any authorized act within the public official's 26
official capacity, shall do any act that hampers or impedes a 27
public official in the performance of the public official's 28
lawful duties. 29

~~(B)~~ (C) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of 30
obstructing official business. Except as otherwise provided in 31
~~this division~~ divisions (C) (2) and (3) of this section, 32
obstructing official business is a misdemeanor of the second 33
degree. 34

(2) If the victim is an emergency service responder 35
engaged in the lawful performance of the responder's legal duty, 36
and the responder issued a warning to the person before the 37
person engaged in or continued to engage in the conduct 38
described in division (B) of this section, obstructing official 39
business is a misdemeanor of the first degree. 40

(3) If a violation of this section creates a risk of 41
physical harm to any person, obstructing official business is a 42
felony of the fifth degree." 43

Delete lines 87 through 112 44

In line 113, delete "section" and insert "sections"; after "2903.22" 45
insert "and 2921.31" 46

In line 114, delete "is" and insert "are" 47

The motion was _____ agreed to.

SYNOPSIS 48

Harassing an emergency service responder 49

R.C. 2927.31 (removed from the bill) 50

Removes the new offense of "harassing an emergency service 51
responder" from the bill. 52

Obstructing official business 53

R.C. 2921.31 54

Increases the penalty for the offense of obstructing 55
official business from a second degree misdemeanor to a first 56
degree misdemeanor if the victim is an emergency service 57
responder engaged in the lawful performance of the responder's 58
legal duties and if the responder issued a warning to the 59
offender. 60